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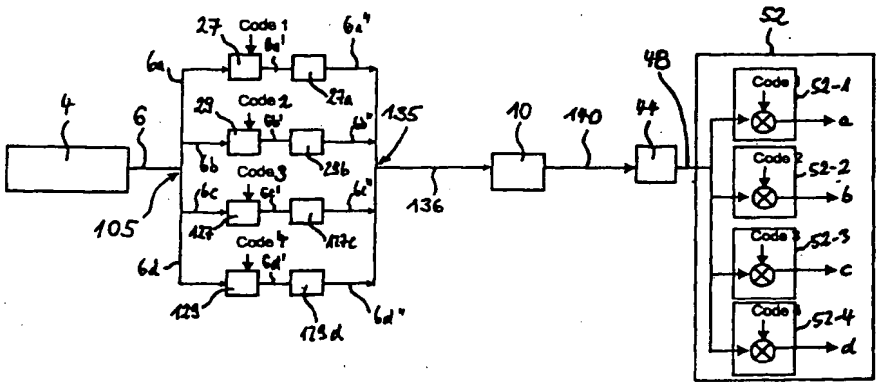
(54) Title: MULTI-SIGNAL DETERMINATION OF POLARIZATION DEPENDENT CHARACTERISTIC



(57) Abstract: A method of determining polarization dependent characteristic of an optical device under test (10) having at least one input and at least one output, comprises the steps of generating and inputting a stimulus signal (4) to each of a plurality of polarization units (27a, 29b, 127c, 129d), setting each of said input stimulus signals into a unique state of polarization, attaching a characteristic identification portion (27, 29, 127, 129) to each of said input and/or polarized stimulus signals, applying said stimulus signal to said device under test (10) for effecting a response signal of said device under test, receiving and identifying (44, 52) each of said characteristic identification portions from said response signal for tracing each of said polarized stimulus signals within said response signal, deriving a polarization dependent characteristic of said device under test from said traced polarized stimulus signals. The method provides a measurement of polarization dependent loss PDL within one shot of a stimulus signal. For such simultaneous measurements couplers (105, 135) are used. Also for polarization mode dispersion PMD.

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